

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIEST 00234 161946Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
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R 161625Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL TRIESTE
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
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UNCLAS TRIESTE 0234

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJ: INGRAO PRAISES PRINCIPLES OF ITALIAN CONSTITUTION

1. IN MAY 15 SPEECH AT UNIVERSITY OF TRIESTE, PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES PIETRO INGRAO (PCI) CALLED FOR A RETURN TO THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE ITALIAN CONSTITUTION IN ORDER TO MEET CHALLENGES FACING ITALY TODAY. INGRAO'S SPEECH BEFORE CAPACITY CROWDS CAME AT INVITATION OF UNIVERSITY TO CELEBRATE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONSTITUTION.

2. ASSERTING THAT PRINCIPLES EMBODIED IN CONSTITUTION STILL VALID TODAY AND FOR FUTURE, INGRAO SAID ITS GREAT SIGNIFICANCE WAS IN RIGHTS IT GAVE TO UNIONS, WOMEN, AND THE MASSES. ITALY S PRESENT DIFFICULTIES REQUIRED SAME SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MASSES, UNIONS, AND POLITICAL PARTIES WHICH CREATED CONSTITUTION AFTER DEFEAT OF FASCISTS IN WORLD WAR II. INGRAO INDIRECTLY CHIDED THE DC FOR STRAYING FROM THESE BASIC PRINCIPLES.

3. INGRAO'S SPEECH ATTENDED BY VIRTUALLY EVERY POLITICAL, MILITARY, GOVERNMENTAL AND UNION LEADER IN THE REGION, AND A SIGNIFICANT CROSS-SECTION OF LOCAL SOCIAL ESTABLISHMENT. EXCEPT FOR PCI SUPPORTERS IN REAR OF AUDITORIUM, HOWEVER,
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PAGE 02 TRIEST 00234 161946Z

RECEPTION APPEARED TO BE LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC AND A NUMBER OF OLDER ESTABLISHMENT FIGURES DOZED DURING THE OVERLY LONG PRESENTATION.

4. COMMENT: INGRAO S SPEECH CLOSELY ADHERED TO PCI POLICY OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES. HE MADE ONLY BRIEF REFERENCE TO MORO ASSASSINATION DIRECTLY,

BUT RECENT EVENTS CLEARLY UNDERLAY REMARKS ABOUT PROBLEMS
FACING ITALY. SCACCHITANO.

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